

2015	Local Oscillator	December
	<h1>Local Oscillator</h1>	
Mesilla Valley Radio Club		

This is a pdf file. It will print easily. A free pdf file reader is at <http://www.adobe.com>

Current Events			Table of Contents
Date	Event	Time	Antenna Installation
Sat	Informal at Cracker Barrel	6:00 AM	Election Results
M, W, F	Informal Wal-Mart (West)	10:00 AM	Become a Ham
Wed	MVRC Net 146.64	6:45 PM	Poem
Dec 5	Christmas Dinner Golden Corral	6 PM	Kids and Ham Radio
	Business meeting Club House	None in Dec	Short Items
Dec 1	Builder's Group Club House	7 PM	Club Meeting
	Board Meeting Club House	None in Dec	Board Minutes
Dec 8	Linux –SIG Club House	7 PM	Treasurer Report
Dec 15	Builders Group Club House	7 PM	Club Location
Dec 22	Linux - SIG Club House	7 PM	Club Officers
			Membership Application
For more events see <a href="http://www.n5bl.org/calendar">http://www.n5bl.org/calendar</a>			



More information at <http://swantenna.com>



## Antenna Installation

## The Articles for This Month

### Antenna Installation

AE5XI, Terry, provided a photograph of the tower which some club members helped install for WD5AJJ, Gary,

### Election Results

WB5OCY

The following were unanimously approved by the membership at large.

Sven Breden WB5OCY club president for calendar year 2016

John Cruddas KE5JWC club secretary and communications for calendar year 2016

Charles Combs KG5BVE club special events manager 2016

These individuals have agreed to serve for another year.

Alex Burr K5XY Publications and Newsletter

Cash Olsen KD5SSJ Education

George Kopp KD5OHA Race events coordinator

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Hugo Costa N1MEX	Treasurer
Robert Bennett AD5LJ	Building and property
Robert Truitt KE5OFK	Repeater support group

## Become a Ham

WB5OCY

The Mesillia Valley Radio Club (MVRC) gives license exams, known as VE Sessions, in the Las Cruces area. Cost to take the exam is \$15 for any class of license or upgrade. Licenses are administered for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by local Volunteer Examiners (VEs) who are ham radio operators with at least a general class who have been accredited by the ARRL or another Volunteer Exam Coordinator (VEC). VEs must have a higher license class than the test they are administering (Extra's, however, can give the extra exam). The local exams are usually given at the MVRC club house at the corner of Jefferson and Wilt Avenue. The FCC requires the test be proctored by at least three VEs. To schedule an exam contact either Perry Steinman KC7VHS (575-571-6470) per-ryson1@gmail.com or Sven Breden WB5OCY at (575-635-0414) sven.breden@gmail.com.

Morse code is no longer a requirement for any license class.

There are only three current classes of new amateur radio licenses: Technician, General, and Extra. The Novice and Advance Class licenses are no longer issued.

- Technician Class – This is the entry level license class, requires Exam element 2 and permits VHF/UHF operation with limited HF operation on 10 meters.
- The General Class License provides additional HF operating privileges and requires passing Elements 2 and 3.
- The Extra Class License is the highest Class license, provides the most HF operating privileges, and requires passing Elements 2,3 and 4.

Once you have passed an exam element and are issued the corresponding license, you do not have to take it again to upgrade to the next class of license unless you let your license expire. Note that it is possible to go directly to General or Extra by taking multiple exam elements in one session.

Renewal of Ham Radio Licenses are free but must be done in the last 3 months of your license term.

### Study Materials

For all three License Classes (Technician, General, and Extra), there are numerous printed study guides, youtube videos, online study guides, etc.

Some representative sources include :

American Radio Relay League (ARRL) License Manuals, study guides, etc. ARRL license manuals also come with CD based practice test. MVRC highly recommends using the ARRL license preparation books. MVRC highly recommends

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the ARRL study guides.

Gordon West Study manuals are also very good.

FCC Rules Part 97 and ARRL Band Chart

There are numerous Online Study Guides and practice tests such as:

Ham Test Online: <http://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/>

AA9PW.Com <http://aa9pw.com/>

QRZ.Com <http://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>

EHam.Net – <http://www.eham.net/exams/>

hamstudy – <http://hamstudy.org/> – this site sponsored by icom basically just gives the text questions in flash card format.

[http://www.ky4ky.com/vetesting\\_materials.htm](http://www.ky4ky.com/vetesting_materials.htm)

There are many Youtube videos available including:

Hermosa Beach Ham Radio Class. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sd2mHVh0O-Y>

Appears to have more coverage of the material. Video of actual classroom instruction:

Ham Wisperer Youtube Technical License Course. <http://www.hamwhisperer.com/p/ham-courses.html> Note it appears he may teach the test rather than the material.

David Casler's KE0OG Videos: <http://dcasler.com/ham-radio/training/>

John D's videos: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVD\\_gvXNoc8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVD_gvXNoc8)

## Ham version of "Twas the Night before Christmas QSO"

Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the shack

No stray RF was stirring. The squelch was turned back.

SWR showed 1:1, and we were all set

To pull in the best DX we could get.

Mama was on digital, and I was on phone,

The children were logging, the dog had a bone

(And was barking out code 599 with good tone.)

LEDs bright and glowing, all snug red and green,

And we had DX cluster lit up on the screen.

I was working Antarctica on meteor scatter,

When right in my ear there arose such a clatter:

I tore off the headphones, and heard, clear and free,

"QRZ?, QRZ?, here's NP8TRD!"

NP8TRD? I struck my brow with a slap,

And frantically searched on my regional map.

It's not here? By golly, I've found a new place!

I quickly got back onto 10-meter space.

"NP8TRD, come back again, please!"

I tuned and re-tuned for every watt I could squeeze

From my barefoot old rig, with its dust and its grime.

"NP8TRD, come back one more time!"

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Then I heard him again, strong, loud, and plain,  
He requested me please to turn down the gain,  
Saying, "Where do you think I am, in North Maine?  
Relax, old man, sit back, stay alive.  
I guess you didn't copy: I'm air-mobile-five.  
My GPS says I'm on course, and the proof  
Is the fact that I'm dropping right down on your roof."

I got up, tripping over some boat anchor gear,  
Dropping the mike and spilling my beer.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the curtains, and threw up the sash.  
The moon on the crust of the newly-blown sand  
Gave a luster of mid-day to objects on hand.  
The new-fallen sand that had blown in a blast  
Hid my vertical's radials except for the mast.  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear  
But NP8TRD, North Pole 8 Tiny Rein Deer.  
"Now Dasher, now SteppIR, now Yaesu and Yagi!  
On Collins, on Kenwood, on Handy and Talkie!  
To the top of the porch, but go easy there, squad,  
We don't want to bash in his cubical quad."  
With tiny hooves the deer, they ran straight as a dream.  
"Steady as she goes, now park by the beam."

As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney NP8TRD came with a bound.  
He was dressed all in red from his head to his foot,  
With twelve feet of guy wire wrapped 'round his boot.  
I drew a bit closer, and as I got bolder,  
I saw a rubber ducky peek over his shoulder.  
He saw me staring, looked up and said, "Hey,  
I'm sorry, I just couldn't hit your repeater today,  
But I guess the North Pole is just too far away."

Then he reached for the bundle of gear in his sack,  
(like the stuff from a hamfest, on the way back).  
His eyes how they twinkled, in the lights from the tree,  
His nose was lit up like a red LED.  
He said, "Do you know the worst part of this day?  
I'll be writing my logs 'til the middle of May."  
Then he quickly got busy, for he had work to do.  
He filled all the stockings, and when he was through,  
I had a brand new transceiver, and a linear, too!

"Fine business, old man, 73, it's time I suppose."



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Then laying a finger aside of his nose,  
He yanked the guy wire, and up the chimney he rose.  
He sprang to his sleigh, and turned on the rig,  
And away they all flew, without snapping a twig.  
But I heard him exclaim, as he drove out of sight,  
"Let's QSO next year, if conditions are right.  
Merry Christmas," he said, "And a Happy New Year,  
Thanks for the contact, NP8TRD's clear."  
Then nothing was left but the vanishing sled,  
And a faint but repeated, "QRZ?, QRZ?".

revised from multiple sources

Original ham version attributed to KO6R Peter Strauss

This NM version by Rick W3GWU, Las Cruces

WB5OCY has recommended the following reprinted article.

## **Kids are Not the Future of Ham Radio**

Bob Witte, KONR

You've heard it a million times: our kids are the future. That statement gets applied to almost everything, including amateur radio. How can you argue with an obvious fact like that?

But I am starting to think it is incorrect.

We've had really good success on creating new hams of all ages in our Technician License Class (at the Tri-Lakes Monument Radio Association). We've been doing this for a while now and I think I am seeing a pattern emerge. We've been able to attract middle schoolers to the class and help them get their ham radio license. I've talked to many of them on the air. They've helped out with public service events. They seem to have fun playing with radios.

Then this thing called high school happens. The high school phase in the US is filled with tons of stuff to do: studying, homework, AP classes, science competitions, sports, dating, movies, driving and after school jobs. Way too much stuff. Ham radio starts to take a backseat to these normal high school activities. Then we don't see the kids at the radio club meetings or chatting on the local repeater because they are busy doing other things. Have we lost them forever? Not sure.

High school is often followed by college which has its own set of challenges: a totally new environment, away from home, a new set of people, new studies, etc. There might be a ham radio club on campus but maybe not. If a kid is not off to college they are (hopefully) out doing something to establish themselves in this world. Eventually they emerge on the other side, get a job, get themselves established, sometimes with a spouse and maybe a kid or two. By this time they are 25 to 30 years old, depending on the individual.

I recently posted about the demographics of our students in the Tech License

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Class (<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2015/10/where-are-the-new-technicians-coming-from/>). Most of our students are 30 or older.

For whatever reason, it seems that most people find themselves in a situation as an adult that causes them to say “I want to get my ham radio license.” When asked why they want to get their ham license, the top response is always emergency/disaster communications, followed by backcountry communications, pursuing electronics as a hobby and learning about radio communications. I suspect that starting to be established in a community and having some disposable income also play a role.

My hypothesis is that the most effective way of growing a vibrant ham radio community is to target adults ages 25 to 40.

This age range is more equipped and ready to be ham radio operators and are still young enough that they will be around for a while. Of course, we still want to work with all age groups, including kids and retirees. We’ve all seen very young hams get the bug for ham radio early and carry it throughout their life. And we also see plenty of older folks get interested in the hobby as they approach or enter retirement. We don’t want to miss out on either of those groups.

So that’s my read on the situation. I’ve got some data to support my theory but I can’t really prove it. What do you think? What are you seeing in your ham radio community?

## Short Items

K5ZI

Bill Johnston, K5ZI, ([johnstonRanch@totacc.com](mailto:johnstonRanch@totacc.com)) would like to know if anyone can provide the names of the persons who held the call signs below, during the years indicated:

1955 W5GPK  
 1973 W5YB  
 1978 WD5IOP  
 1999 N5XCQ

Each one is known to have held the call sign during the year indicated, but it is not known for how long before or after that year.

## Monthly Club Meeting

WB5OCY

**GENERAL MEETING 11-07-2015**

Club Meet and Greet: 0800 to 0900

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Educational Program: Due to the unexpected unavailability of the speaker, no program was conducted.

At 0905 Club President Robert Truitt **KE5OFK** officially opened the Business Meeting. This is Rob's last banging of the gavel after a very long and productive reign as our leader. Rob (who will continue to maintain the repeaters) reported that the repeaters are in working order and the Mesh net is up and running with connections to Wyoming and Colorado. Hopefully El Paso (Past Canutillo) will open up as well. Rob is the newly appointed South West ARRL Representative and, prior to January 1st, if you need to renew for \$39.00 per month for 3 months you will save \$10.00 per month as dues are rising \$10.00. Even if you have recently renewed you are still eligible for the savings and the three years will be added to you current expiration date. If you do so through Rob he will also provide a new ARRL Repeater Book or another ARRL Publication as a gift. He can also handle Life Memberships. If you are having any problems with email contact Rob for assistance. Rob also announced the elections, candidates were proposed, and voting held as follows:

#### Club Officers for 2016:

Sven Breden <b>WB5OCY</b>	President
John Cruddas <b>KE5JWC</b>	Secretary/Communications Officer
Hugo Costa <b>N1MEX</b>	Treasurer

#### Board members:

Sven Breden <b>WB5OCY</b>	Chairman
John Cruddas <b>KE5JWC</b>	Member
Hugo Costa <b>N1MEX</b>	Member
Cash Olsen <b>KD5SSJ</b>	Member
Bob Bennett <b>AD5LJ</b>	Member
Alex Burr <b>KX5Y</b>	Member
Robert Truitt <b>KE5OFK</b>	Member
Terry Wood <b>KF5SMQ</b>	Member

Rob also announced that Charlie Combs **KG5BVE**, has offered to be the Special Events Coordinator and felt Charlie would bring renewed energy to handling these tasks. He will also work with George Kopp **KD5OHA** with Race activities, who has done an exemplary job in these endeavors.

Bob Bennett **AD5LJ**, Building Manager, announced that the club had been cleaned prior to the meeting and that there are still small items in the shed for sale for anyone interested.

Cash Olsen **KD5SSJ** Education announced that EBID's proposed request for



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Tech Class License Preparation continues to be looked in to and that the presentation planned for this meeting was on hold pending the scheduling of the presenter. He reminded the group of the Builders Meetings on the 1st and 3rd of the month and the Linux Meetings on the 2nd and 4th days of the month.

George Kopp **KD5OHA** Races Coordinator, announced that he had enough volunteers for the Turkey Trot Race scheduled on Thanksgiving Day and that meetings had been started for Bataan with Henry Schotzko **AD5FE** in attendance at the first meeting. George added that several meetings were scheduled prior to the race but most were not relevant to the clubs participation and he would attend those that were. The next race should be the Super Bowl Race with dates to be announced. A new canopy was purchased for the OYE event and is in the club storage. It is relatively easy to put up. *George also announced that the club's annual Christmas Party would be at the Golden Corral the 1st Saturday of December at 1800.*

Perry Steinman **KC7VHS** VE Coordinator, announced there are no tests currently scheduled but he can be contacted for any future requests.

Sven Breden **WB5OCY** invited all members to email him by the 1st of January, 2016 with your ideas for the club. He is seeking your thoughts for your likes, dislikes, and suggestions for improvements. Sven can be contacted at [sven.breden@gmail.com](mailto:sven.breden@gmail.com) or 575 635-0414.

Dues are due January 1st, 2016 and members are considered delinquent after April 1st (no joking). All members are invited to support the club and club functions. All members are also reminded that Board Meetings are open meetings and you may join us if you wish.

(Please refer any corrections to John **KE5JWC** at [ke5jwc@gmail.com](mailto:ke5jwc@gmail.com))

## Monthly Board Meeting

WB5OCY

### BOARD MEETING 11-11-2015

Meeting called to order: 7:00PM

Board members:

Robert Truitt <b>KE5OFK</b>	Chairman
Sven Breden <b>WB5OCY</b>	member
John Cruddas <b>KE5JWC</b>	Member
Hugo Costa <b>N1MEX</b>	Member (Not Present)
Cash Olsen <b>KD5SSJ</b>	Member
Bob Bennett <b>AD5LJ</b>	Member
Alex Burr <b>KX5Y</b>	Member (Not Present)
Robert Truitt <b>KE5OFK</b>	Member
Terry Wood <b>KF5SMQ</b>	Member (Not Present)
Also present:	

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George Kopp **KD5OHA**  
Charles Combs **KG5BVE**

Rob advised that the following dues had been received: Harvey Baldwin **W0RUG** paid dues for 2016; Derek Jordan **KF5MQG**; Bob Cosgrove **AF5NW** paid dues for 2016; Charlie Combs **KG5BVE**, paid dues for 2016; and Tom Pettibone **K5OI** paid dues for 2015 and 2016 and made a \$5.00 donation. The alarm connection is still being worked on to connect to the Ham Net (BBHN). He alerted Charles to the upcoming NM QSO Party and the need to contact ARRL in January to get publication of the Bean Feed. A member inquired as to the necessity for an alarm in the club and Bob **AD5LJ**, replied that it was for insurance reasons. Charles **KG5BVE** will be coordinating Special Events to include assisting George. He also mentioned that the 2016 ARRL handbook has been made available to every club. Our copy will be made part of the library. He also is still working on the BBHN Antenna at Caballo Mountain.

Bob Bennett **AD5LJ**, Building Manager, announced that the club had been cleaned prior to the meeting and that there are still small items in the shed for sale for anyone interested. Also some minor club chores are pending.

George Kopp **KD5OHA** Race Coordinator, announced that he had enough volunteers for the Turkey Trot Race scheduled on Thanksgiving Day and that meetings had been started for Bataan with Henry Schotzko **AD5FE** in attendance at the first meeting. *George also announced that the club's annual Christmas Party would be at the Golden Corral the 1st Saturday of December at 1800.*

Sven **WB5OCY** inquired about the remaining weeds on the club property and was advised by Bob **AD5LJ** that they are being addressed.

Having no more business Rob called for a motion to adjourn at 7:50PM.

NOTE: Dues are due January 1st, 2016 and members are considered delinquent after April 1st (no joking). All members are invited to support the club and club functions. All members are also reminded that Board Meetings are open meetings and you may join us if you wish.

(Please refer any corrections to John **KE5JWC** at [ke5jwc@gmail.com](mailto:ke5jwc@gmail.com))

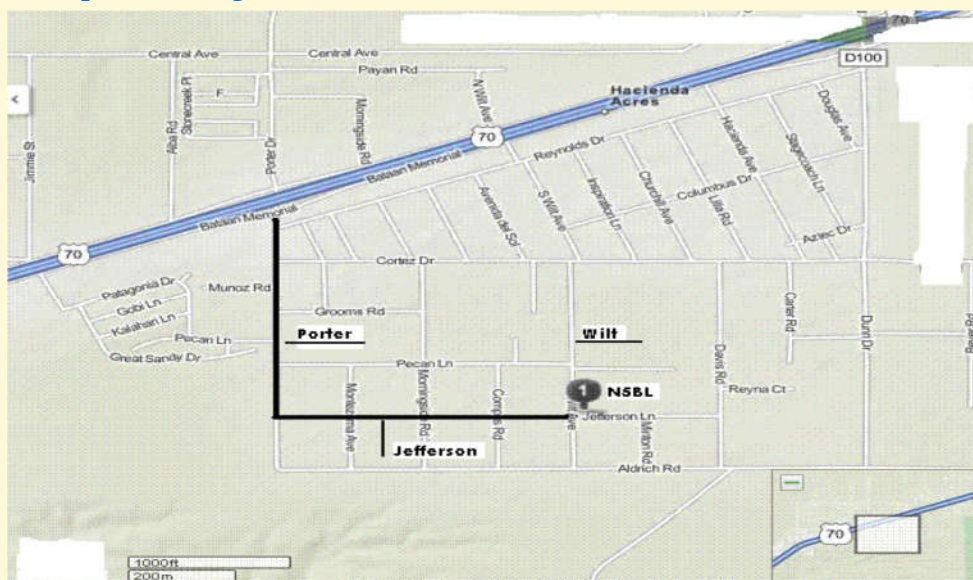
## Treasurer Report

Not available

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## CLUB INFORMATION

The MVRC Clubhouse is located at the intersection of Wilt and Jefferson. To find the clubhouse, set your destination on your GPS receiver as 32 degrees 22.961 minutes and -106 degrees 41.44 minutes. If you don't own a GPS, take the Porter exit near the firehouse on US 70. It is about 5 miles east from the I 25 interchange. Go south on Porter until you come to Jefferson. There turn left toward the mountains and go to Wilt. You will see the beam on the corner. The treasurer would be delighted to receive your contribution for landscaping and furnishing. More information at <http://n5bl.org>



### Officers

Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail
President	Gus Landis	N0YRQ	636-2229	<a href="mailto:n0yrq.1dl@gmail.com">n0yrq.1dl@gmail.com</a>
VP				
Secretary	Sven Breden	WB5OCY	525-9445	<a href="mailto:sven.breden@gmail.com">sven.breden@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Hugo Costa	N1MEX	644-9211	<a href="mailto:n1mex@arrl.net">n1mex@arrl.net</a>
Board Members				
	Cash Olsen	KD5SSJ	382-1917	<a href="mailto:kd5ssj@arrl.net">kd5ssj@arrl.net</a>
	Bob Bennett	AD5LJ	382-0148	<a href="mailto:rpbennett1@comcast.net">rpbennett1@comcast.net</a>
	Alex. Burr	K5XY	522-2528	<a href="mailto:k5xy@arrl.net">k5xy@arrl.net</a>
	Robert Truitt	KE5OFK	649-4173	<a href="mailto:robhtruitt@zianet.com">robhtruitt@zianet.com</a>
	Terry Wood	KF5SMQ	915-6891	<a href="mailto:KF5SMQ@yahoo.com">KF5SMQ@yahoo.com</a>
	John Cruddas	KE5JWC	526-9199	<a href="mailto:KE5JWC@yahoo.com">KE5JWC@yahoo.com</a>

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# **JOIN THE CLUB**

To join the Mesilla Valley Radio Club, renew your membership, or to support the repeaters, please print, cut out, and complete the form below. Send it with dues (\$35 single, \$45 family per year. to: Treasurer, MVRC, Box 1443, Las Cruces, NM 88004.

## **MESILLA VALLEY RADIO CLUB**

CALL SIGN(S) \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY    yes \_\_\_\_\_    no \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSE CLASS (E, A, G, T, N) \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL VE (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be added to the MVRC reflector? \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ (OPTIONAL)

INTERESTS – Computer \_\_\_\_\_ Contests \_\_\_\_\_ Digital \_\_\_\_\_ Elmer \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Communications \_\_\_\_\_ Field Day \_\_\_\_\_

Packet \_\_\_\_\_ Programs \_\_\_\_\_ Public Service \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ RFI \_\_\_\_\_ Repeater \_\_\_\_\_ Social \_\_\_\_\_ License Classes \_\_\_\_\_

Teach License Classes \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Examiner \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE \$35 FAMILY \$45